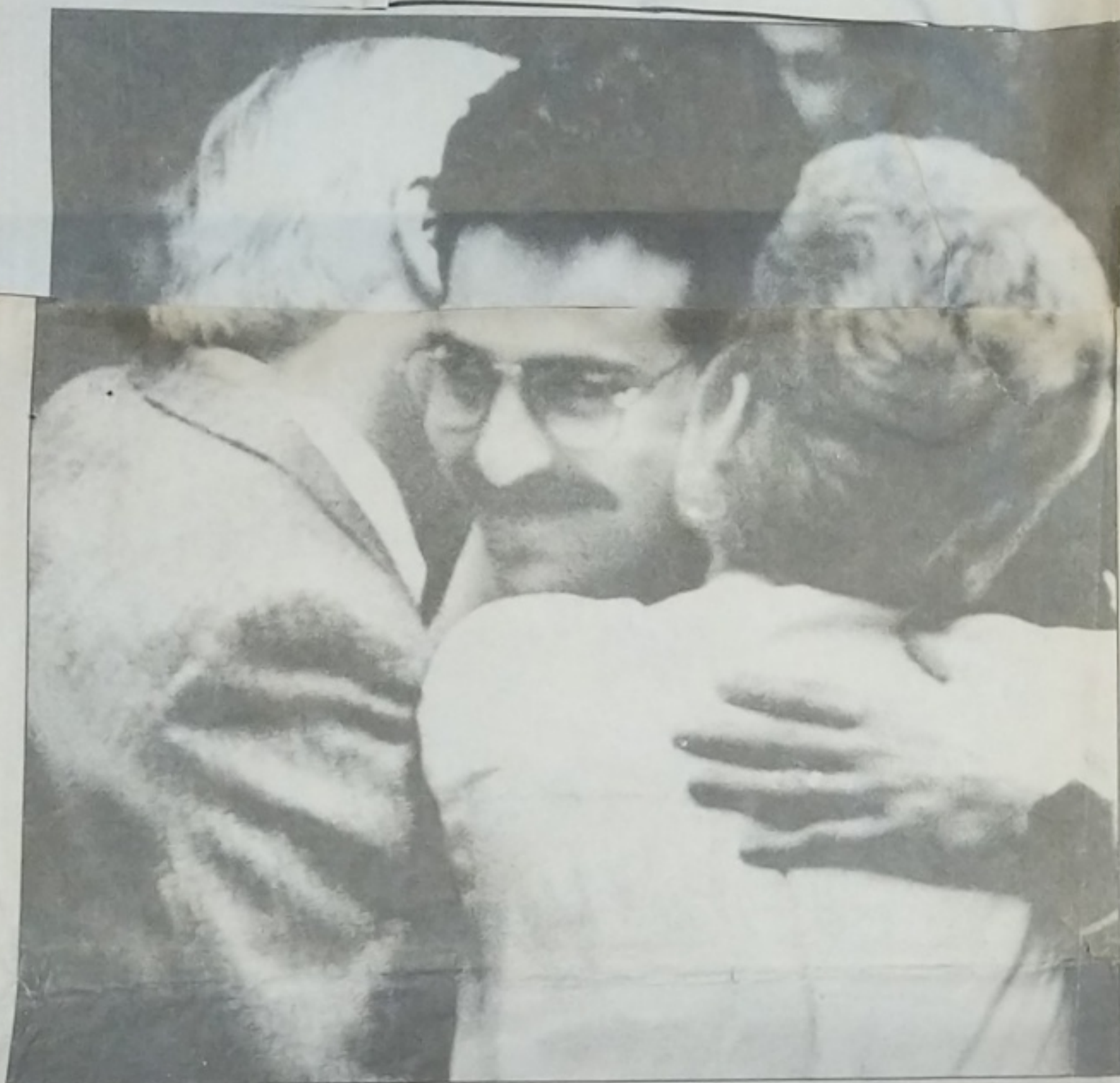


# A stoic Pamela Smart gets life

## Juror says tapes did it



**Congratulations:** Gregory Smart's parents thank Assistant Attorney General Paul Maggiotto.



**After verdict:** Pamela Smart leaves the courtroom after guilty verdict is announced.

## Seductress convicted

Clings to table top as word guilty is repeated 36 times

By Linda Bean  
Eagle-Tribune Writer

EXETER, N.H. — Pamela Smart, who claimed she was "obsessed" with finding her husband's killer, was jailed for life yesterday after a jury decided she plotted the murder herself.

**"It feels great."**

**William Smart**  
Victim's dad

The seven-woman, five-man jury deliberated 13½ hours over three days this week before finding Mrs. Smart, 23, the state's most celebrated seductress, guilty of three different crimes.

"How say you?" intoned Rockingham County Superior Court Judge Douglas Gray, three times.

"Guilty," said jury foreman Norma Honor, Atkinson, N.H., as sharp cries of victory rose from the dead man's family and friends.

The verdict came in about 1 p.m., ending the trial that has captured the attention of the region and the nation for the past 10 days.

Mrs. Smart — former media director for the Winnacunnet schools

was accused of seducing her teen-age lover, William Flynn, then 16, into pulling the trigger on Gregory Smart, 24.

She was found guilty of accomplice to murder, which carries a mandatory sentence of life in prison without parole; conspiracy to murder and witness tampering. An appeal is certain.

The jurors were individually polled on each

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**Joyous:** Gregory Smart's parents, Judith and William Smart, talk to reporters after verdict.

## Verdict overjoys Gregory Smart's family

By Diana Brown  
Eagle-Tribune Writer

EXETER, N.H. — Gregory Smart's parents clasped their hands and shouted for joy when their daughter-in-law, Pamela Smart, was found guilty and sentenced to life in jail for plotting the murder of their son.

Gregory's mother, Judith, cried and her husband, William, whispered "thank you" to the jurors for finding Pamela Anne Wojas Smart, 23, guilty of conspiring with and directing her 16-year-old lover, William Flynn, to shoot her husband in the head last May.

As they left the courthouse, Mr. Smart said, "Thank God. Thank God. Thank God."

The Smarts, engulfed by reporters and photographers, graciously fielded questions and talked about their sense of relief that the trial has ended. Later, the family laid flowers on Gregory's gravesite in East Derry and hosted a party at a Manchester, N.H., restaurant.

"I wanted to scream and holler and jump and everything," Mrs. Smart told reporters.

"Did you ever experience crying at one of the happiest moments of your life?" Mr. Smart asked.

"It makes us believe that indeed this woman had the power to manipulate people that are younger than her —

unlike she could manipulate our son, Greg," Mr. Smart said.

"Thank God she will never will be able to do this to anyone else," Mrs. Smart said.

"At least her parents can visit her and touch her and kiss her and hug her, but we can't do anything but visit a cold grave for the rest of our lives," said Gregory's grandmother, Mary Smart.

Pamela "deserved just what she got. She deserved worse in my opinion," Mary Smart said. "At least we know she's in jail forever, and she should be, for what she did to our grandson."

The last 10 months, she said, she has experienced "more suffering than I've ever suffered in my life."

But with the guilty verdict, Gregory's grandfather, Richard, said, "I can feel some strength coming back to my body."

"There's really no way to describe the feelings, because in the background you know Greg is never going to be back. This was done to serve justice, but it really doesn't help the loss," said one of Gregory's friends, Richard LaFond.

"The person who this was all done for is not here to celebrate," Mr. LaFond said.

## 'She looked like a statue,' juror says

By Lois Marchand  
Eagle-Tribune Writer

PLAISTOW, N.H. — The tapes of Pamela Smart talking about covering up a murder were the evidence that convinced any doubters on the jury.

"It was when I heard those tapes ... not the transcript. It was actually their voices.... She

(Pamela Smart) said everything that tied it all together ... that she had cooked it all up," said Charlotte Jeffs, 141 Maple Ave., Atkinson.

"It was her conversation with Cecelia Pierce that determined my mind. But we all came to the same conclusion. We discussed every line ... everything that was presented to us," she said.

Jury forewoman Norma Honor, Atkinson, said when the deliberations were through, there were no doubts.

"It was a unanimous decision and I just spoke for everyone," she said.

"We did what we had to do and it wasn't easy. I wouldn't want to do it again."

Mrs. Jeffs said the character of Mrs. Smart is a mystery the jurors could not solve.

"She was something else. I never saw a woman who could sit there with such a stony face. She looked like a statue," Mrs. Jeffs said.

"A very pretty girl — very petite, very slim, nice hair, pink cheeks, lovely skin, like a cameo — but I don't know what went on in that mind of hers to ever do a thing like that. She wanted him dead. It's a shame," she said.

Mrs. Jeffs, whose husband, Lawrence, drives a bus for the Timberlane schools, said she has served on a jury before, but this was different.

"It wasn't half as traumatic as this one," she

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# Pam Smart is jailed for life

## Jailed From page 1

charge at the request of her lawyers, Mark Sisti and Paul Twomey.

"Guilty," each said in turn, until it had been repeated 36 different times.

Mrs. Smart, dressed in a dark skirt and purple plaid suit jacket, pressed her hands to the tabletop to support herself as the jurors spoke.

Mr. Sisti watched the jury through narrowed eyes, while Mr. Twomey's knees appeared to buckle when the verdicts were announced.

Judge Gray immediately handed down the mandatory sentence for accomplice to murder and remanded Mrs. Smart to New Hampshire State Prison for Women in Goffstown "for the remainder of your life without parole."

Mr. Smart's parents, William and Judith, his brothers, grandparents and friends clutched each other tightly. Several wept, while others glowed with apparent exultation.

On the other side of the courtroom aisle, Mrs. Smart's parents — John and Linda Wojas — sat impassively, while Dorothy Keville, Mrs. Wojas' sister, cried and twisted a handkerchief with her fingers.

The family's other friends and supporters missed the verdict when they returned late from lunch and the courtroom row generally packed with Wojas family members was strangely empty.

Beth Wojas, who sat by her mother in the courtroom each day, heard the jury's verdict on a restaurant radio.

"What can we do for you?" asked one compassionate sheriff's deputy, who offered escort for Mrs. Smart's parents through an estimated 120 reporters, cameramen and technicians to their car.

On their way to the parking lot, Mrs. Wojas knocked over camera stands set up by at least five different stations and grimly ignored questions as she hurried away.

Mr. and Mrs. Smart, and Assistant Attorney General Paul Maggiotto — by contrast — stepped up to the microphones set up outside the courthouse to express frank delight.

"It feels great," said William Smart. "In my life, I have not ever met such a cold person."

"Thank you, God," echoed his wife.

Judith Smart said she started to suspect her daughter-in-law played a role in her son's death about two months after the murder.

"Her behavior was really strange. I didn't see her cry," she said.

The night her son died, they sat together on a neighbor's couch.

"All I can remember her saying ... was 'Can someone see if my dog is all right? My son and her husband was laying dead in the next apartment, but all she wanted to know about was her dog,' Mrs. Smart said.

During 10 days of testimony, the jury heard a story of sex, lies and manipulation. The most compelling testimony came from her young lover and a series of secret police tapes.

Mrs. Smart, said Mr. Maggiotto, put her "hooks" firmly into Mr. Flynn's "psyche and his hormones."

He was 15 when she seduced him with a turquoise nightie, a dirty movie and a striptease; 16 when he shot her husband; 17 when he testified against her in court.

"It's not every day," he said, that a "16-year-old, well, 15-year-old, kid gets this 22-year-old woman saying she likes him. I was pretty happy," he said.

He killed Mr. Smart, he said, "for Pam."

Mr. Flynn described for the jury their first kiss, first sex-play and their frequent discussions about the murder.

Mrs. Smart, he said, conceived the murder plot and told the boys how to:

**WEAR** latex gloves;

**ENTER** her Derry, N.H., home

through the bulkhead door;

**USE** a gun and keep blood off the sofa;

**BE** careful of her dog, Halen;

**RANSACK** the condominium to make it look like a burglary and, finally;

**TAKE** anything they wanted.

Mr. Flynn told the jury how his lover would cry and show him the bruises she said were left by her husband.

She would detail, he said, how Mr. Smart grabbed her and threw her to the floor, he said.

And she repeatedly threatened to break off their relationship if he did not kill her husband, he said.

Mr. Flynn's testimony prompted sympathy from Mr. Smart's parents, who denounced their daughter-in-law as a "demon" and angrily recalled how she bundled their boy's possessions up in garbage bags and shipped them to their home.

Mrs. Smart's voice — captured on a series of tapes made by police with the help of a teenage informant — provoked their rage.

The tapes — made when Cecilia Pierce, 16, Mrs. Smart's student intern, wore a microphone for police — illustrate their daughter-in-law's contempt for the police investigation and the boys involved in the case.

□ □ □

**SMART:** Yeah, but even if I asked somebody to kill somebody you'd have to be f—— deranged to say, 'OK I will,' you know what I mean, whether someone asked you to or not.

**PIERCE:** As far as I can see it, Bill did it because he loved you. I mean, you didn't pay him, right?

**SMART:** Yeah, right. No, I didn't pay anybody.

**Reporter Diana Brown contributed to this story.**

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# Juror says tapes convinced her

## Jury From page 1

said.

As a juror, she said, she will get over it. "But those families will never get over it," she said.

"This young girl has ruined all those lives. The oldest one is 18 — they are all young. And their parents — Pam and her parents — Greg and his parents — It's just so sad.

"My eyes burned at times. My eyes sometimes filled with water. But as a juror, you have to remain passive and you have to be open-minded."

"It's just so sad ... I think the marriage was on the rocks. And as far as his having an affair when he (Greg) was drunk and slept with some woman, that didn't (help her) ... Why couldn't she just have divorced him?"

Mrs. Jefts said Mrs. Smart is still a puzzle.

"I really think that she has a dual personality. I think she is two different people. Here she is in the higher echelon. She is a college graduate with a good job. She has this intern, Cecelia. She's top banana. She had high marks and was an honor student in high school and she could be on that level... But then she can turn around and be on the level of these young kids ... with this scum and with them she talks like them. Oh, the expletives were every other word, almost," she said.

Mrs. Jefts said there were some hold-outs at first. But after discussing everything, point by point, over 2½ days, everyone came to the same conclusion.

"If anyone had any doubt about anything at all, it was discussed ... checked against testimony again and again and it was beyond a shadow of a doubt in our minds," she said.

"There was no way we could find that girl 'not guilty' with the evidence we had. There isn't one person who said 'not guilty' when we took a final vote."

She said there were some differences between some of the testimony of the boys, but not enough to be a real discrepancy.

"These boys took their plea-bargaining with the idea that they

told the truth. I believe they told the truth. I really do."

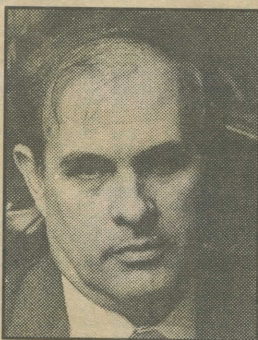
Mrs. Jefts said the jury members were a good group.

"They were extremely thoughtful, intelligent people — open-minded and fair," she said.

Mrs. Jefts said it was easy avoiding the newspapers and the television.

"That was the real easy part of the trial," she said.

Alternate juror James Watts



James Watts  
... alternate juror

did not get to participate in the Pamela Smart deliberations.

But he would have agreed with the 12-member jury.

"She was too smooth with her information. She answered questions before she was even asked," said Mr. Watts, 47, of Salem, N.H. "I say she's guilty."

He said he was very disappointed that he did not get to participate in the deliberations. He was one of three alternate jurors sent home Wednesday after the closing arguments.

"I had a feeling it would happen today," Mr. Watts said of the verdict. "I think they took the proper amount of time to deliberate."

He said the taped conversation between Cecelia Pierce and Mrs. Smart was especially incriminating.

"The tapes were difficult to hear but there was a lot of information," he said. "The conversation was rough and crude. She has a 3.85 G.P.A. and she was playing down to a 15-year-old."

Mr. Watts also said the prosecution did a good job.

"They convinced you. The whole package came together," he said.

Mr. Watts, a manager at NCR, said he was glad the trial is over. His wife has been keeping the newspapers from him and he has been staying away from the television for the past few weeks. He plans to catch up on his reading this weekend.





Eagle-Tribune photo by Marc McGeehan

**Moment of truth:** Pamela Smart stands to hear the verdict.

## A chronology of the Smart case

Here is a chronology of the Pamela Smart murder case:

**TWO YEARS AGO**, Gregory Smart and Pamela Anne Wojas were married at the Sacred Heart Church in Lowell on May 7, 1989.

**A YEAR LATER**, Gregory Smart, 24, was found with a bullet in his head, dead in the foyer of his 4E Misty Morning Drive condominium in Derry, N.H., on May 1.

**TWO DAYS LATER**, Pamela Smart started talking to reporters on May 3, claiming her husband was the victim of a botched burglary.

**THE NEXT DAY**, family and friends mourned at his funeral at St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Derry. He was later buried in an East Derry cemetery on May 4.

**A MONTH LATER**, three Seabrook, N.H., teen-agers, William "Bill" Flynn, 16, Patrick "Pete" Randall, 17, and Vance "J.R." Lattime, Jr., 17, were arrested for the murder of Gregory Smart on June 11.

**ONE MONTH AFTERWARD**, Cecelia Pierce, Pamela Smart's intern and confidante, wore a hidden recording device for Derry, N.H., police to tape conversations with Mrs. Smart

in her office and car on July 12 and following days.

**A MONTH LATER**, Pamela Smart was charged with being an accomplice to first-degree murder, conspiracy to commit murder and witness tampering on Aug. 1.

**FIVE WEEKS LATER**, William Flynn, the trigger man, was certified to be tried as an adult on Sept. 7.

**TWO MONTHS AGO**, Mr. Flynn, Mr. Randall and Mr. Lattime pleaded guilty to second-degree murder and were promised a lighter sentence for agreeing to testify against Pamela Smart on Jan. 28.

**EARLIER THIS MONTH**, Pamela Smart's trial began at the Rockingham County Superior Court in Exeter, N.H.

**THREE DAYS AGO**, a jury of seven women and five men started deliberating the case.

**YESTERDAY**, jurors returned guilty verdicts on three counts: accomplice to first-degree murder, conspiracy to commit murder and witness tampering. Judge Douglas Gray sentenced Pamela Smart to life in prison without parole. An appeal was expected.



a paperclip that belonged to his son Greg as Judith Smart looks on

# Pamela Smart's family: Please just leave us alone

*Lawrence Eagle Tribune*

*March 23, 1991*

by Diana Brown  
Eagle-Tribune Writer

EXETER, N.H. — Pamela Wojas Smart's parents appeared stunned.

They pushed past reporters and photographers to get out of the courthouse and to their car.

Pamela's mother, Linda Wojas, knocked over several camera stands and elbowed television cameramen as she quickly and stoically marched away, asking for her other daughter, Beth, and ignoring reporters' questions.

"We are devastated. There are no plans. It's very hard to accept a verdict like this," she said later from home.

Beth Wojas ran up to her parents at the car. She was not in the courtroom when the guilty verdict was read and heard about it on the radio while eating lunch at a local restaurant.

"I'm sorry about it," Beth Wojas said of the verdict as she ducked into the car.

Neither parent cried as Judge Douglas Gray told Pamela Smart she would spend the rest of her life in the New Hampshire State Prison for Women in Goffstown, N.H.

Mrs. Wojas called a Boston radio station to make a statement.

"Our whole family mourns Greg, but we wanted a fair trial for Pam," she said.

Mr. Wojas said his daughter was tried in the press. He questioned whether jurors went home each night and avoided television, radio and newspaper reports.

In Windham, the Wojases holed themselves up in their 5 Johnson Road home. Pamela's father, John Wojas, took two bags of garbage out to his car and refused to comment before he drove away.

Pamela's aunt, Dorothy Keville, said, "It's very hard to accept this kind of verdict. We shouldn't be judging each other, and she was judged in the press prior to this.... I'm very sad and we're very upset.

"Please just leave us alone," Mrs. Keville said.



**Mother and daughter:** Linda Wojas (right) and her daughter Beth outside the courthouse.



Eagle-Tribune photo by Marc McGee

**Going home:** John and Linda Wojas head for home after their daughter Pamela Smart is found guilty.